



IDPH AMERICORPS
MENTORING PROGRAM
MEMBER HANDBOOK

Table of Contents

ABOUT AMERICORPS	
What is AmeriCorps?	1
The Iowa Department of Public Health & AmeriCorps	3
Your Commitment	3
AmeriCorps Terminology	4
Program Staff Directory	4
YOUR TERM	5
Important Web Bookmarks	5
Time Reporting System – Iowagrants.gov	6
AmeriCorps Mentoring Program Data Reporting	13
Code of Conduct	14
BENEFITS/REQUIREMENTS	15
Living Allowance	15
Health Care & Worker's Compensation	16
Education Benefits	16
Training, Orientation, Meetings & Evaluations	22
Media	23
Day of Service	23
Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Anti-Discrimination Policy	25
Violence-Fee Workplace Policy	30
Substance Abuse Policy	33
Smoking and Tobacco Use Policy	35
EXITING AmeriCorps	37
End of Term Exit Checklist for Members and Supervisors	39
Life After AmeriCorps	41

ABOUT AMERICORPS



What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps is referred to as "the domestic Peace Corps." AmeriCorps is a national service program offered through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) based in Washington, D.C. CNCS supports a full range of full-time and part-time service opportunities through funding provided by Congress and other support from local and private sectors.

The Iowa Department of Public Health's AmeriCorps Mentoring Program provides mentoring opportunities with agencies throughout the state to promote relationship building, social skill development, success in school, and to prevent youth substance abuse.

The Corporation for National Service (CNCS) is divided into three main parts:

- *AmeriCorps State and National* support programs that have been awarded AmeriCorps grants. Iowa Commission on Volunteer Services (ICVS) distributes AmeriCorps funding to local programs and monitors compliance with program requirements.
- *AmeriCorps VISTA* is a national network program which focuses on helping low-income communities. VISTA members typically serve full time for one year.
- AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps is a national program in which members age 18
 24 serve in teams on short-term service projects. AmeriCorps NCCC members live on one of five campuses across the country. Iowa is proud to have a NCCC campus in Vinton, Iowa.

Since its inception, more than 1 million men and women have taken the AmeriCorps pledge, serving more than one billion hours and improving the lives of countless Americans.

The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service (ICVS or "the Commission") was established in 1994 to administer the state's AmeriCorps State programs. The Commission grew out of the Iowa Office of Volunteerism, created in 1978 by Executive Order 33 of Governor Robert Ray. The mission of ICVS is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. The vision is to create an Iowa where all citizens are empowered through service to meet community challenges and make lives better.

AmeriCorps is a cost-effective solution to America's toughest problems:

- **Education and Youth:** AmeriCorps places thousands of teachers, tutors, and mentors into low performing schools, helping students succeed in school and gain skills necessary to get 21st century jobs.
- **Veterans and Military Families:** AmeriCorps supports the military community by engaging veterans in service, helping veterans readjust to civilian life, and providing support to military families.
- **Disasters:** From forest fires and floods, to hurricanes and tornadoes, AmeriCorps members have provided critical support to millions of Americans affected by disasters since 1994.
- **Economic Opportunity:** VISTA, AmeriCorps' poverty-fighting program, engages more than 8,000 members each year in fighting poverty by creating businesses, expanding access to technology, recruiting volunteers to teach literacy, and strengthening antipoverty groups.

- **Health:** AmeriCorps members save lives and improve health through HIV/AIDS education and outreach, drug and alcohol prevention training, and connecting poor families to health clinics and services.
- **Environment:** Members build trails, restore parks, protect watersheds, run recycling programs, and promote energy efficiency, weatherization, and clean energy.

AmeriCorps expands education and economic opportunity

- Preparing the 21st Century Workforce: AmeriCorps is a pathway to economic opportunity that
 provides members with valuable skills, leadership abilities, and experience to help jumpstart their
 careers.
- **Expanding Educational Opportunity:** AmeriCorps members have earned more than \$2.4 billion in Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards since 1994, helping hundreds of thousands of alums pay for college.
- **Building Community Leaders:** An AmeriCorps longitudinal study found that AmeriCorps alums are more attached to their communities, aware of community challenges, and empowered to address them.
- **Pipeline to Public Service:** AmeriCorps alums are significantly more likely to go into public service careers. This is particularly true of minorities and people from low-income backgrounds.

AmeriCorps strengthens the impact of our nation's nonprofits

- **Strengthening Nonprofits:** AmeriCorps members help tens of thousands of faith-based and community groups expand services, build capacity, raise funds, develop new partnerships, and create innovative, sustainable programs.
- **Mobilizing volunteers:** AmeriCorps is a powerful catalyst and force-multiplier for community volunteering. Last year AmeriCorps members recruited, trained, and supervised more than 4 million community volunteers for the organizations they serve.
- **Public-Private Partnership:** AmeriCorps leverages substantial private investment from businesses, foundations, and other sources. AmeriCorps has cut costs and become more efficient by supporting more members with fewer federal dollars.
- **Advancing Social Innovation:** AmeriCorps invests in entrepreneurial organizations that have been recognized for their innovative approaches to citizen problem-solving.

AmeriCorps Fast Facts

- 1 Million: Number of individuals who have served as AmeriCorps members since 1994.
- 1 Billion: Total number of hours served by AmeriCorps members.
- \$2.4 Billion: Total amount of Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards earned by AmeriCorps members.
- 4 Million: Number of community volunteers managed or mobilized by AmeriCorps members in 2012.

The Iowa Department of Public Health & AmeriCorps

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) AmeriCorps Mentoring Project is funded by the state Mentoring Program and AmeriCorps. IDPH works with our state commission, Iowa Commission on Volunteer Services (ICVS) located in the Iowa Department of Economic Authority. IDPH applied for AmeriCorps funding through ICVS and Corporation for National Community Service, CNCS. The AmeriCorps program is located within the Division of Behavioral Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse. IDPH AmeriCorps members serve in a variety of areas including schools, human service-oriented agencies, public health, and mentoring programs including Big Brothers Big Sisters.



The Big Picture

AmeriCorps has four main goals:

- **Getting Things Done**, AmeriCorps members help communities solve problems in the areas of education, public safety, the environment, and other human needs (like health and housing) by getting other people to serve as volunteers.
- **Strengthening Communities**, AmeriCorps members help unite individuals from all different backgrounds and organizations of all kinds in a common effort to improve communities.
- **Encouraging Responsibility**, AmeriCorps members explore and exercise their responsibilities to their communities, their families, and themselves during their service experience and throughout their lives.
- **Expanding Opportunity**, AmeriCorps helps those who help America. AmeriCorps members receive awards to further their education or to pay back student loans. They also gain valuable job experience, specialized training and other skills.

Your Commitment

As an AmeriCorps member, you are expected to adhere to the AmeriCorps pledge. Not only during your term of service, but hopefully continuing to serve in your community in the years ahead.

I will get things done for America - to make our people safer, smarter, and healthier.

I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy, I will take action.

Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground.

Faced with adversity, I will preserve.

I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond. I am an AmeriCorps member, and I will get things done. -The AmeriCorps Pledge

AmeriCorps Terminology

AmeriCorps members are unique. You are not a full-time employee, but you're far more than a volunteer. Below are some of the terms to use when talking about AmeriCorps. This vocabulary is helpful when communicating with program staff, Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service or the public you will encounter during your term of service.

Typical Employment Terminology	AmeriCorps Terminology
Hire	Enroll
Job	Service
Work	Serve
Paycheck	Living Allowance
Salary	Living Allowance
Volunteer	Member*
Worker	Member*
Employee	Member*
Contract	Member Service Agreement

^{*}The National and Community Service Act of 1990 as amended states that a member "shall not be considered to be an employee of the program in which the participant is enrolled" (42 USC §12511(17) (B)). Thus, as an AmeriCorps member, you are not eligible for unemployment benefits under federal law and Iowa Code §96.19(18) (6) (e). AmeriCorps members are also not eligible for overtime pay, sick leave, paid holidays (state or personal), or comp time. You do not have a right to collective bargaining or participation in Iowa Public Employee Retirement System (IPERS).

Program Staff Directory

AmeriCorps Members should always first approach their program supervisor regarding any				
	que	stions		
	IDPH AmeriCorps Program		515-725-7895	
Julie Hibben	Director	<u>Julie. Hibben@IDPH.iowa.gov</u>	515-725-7895	
	IDPH AmeriCorps Program		515-725-2018	
Janet Nelson	Assistant	<u>Janet.Nelson@IDPH.iowa.gov</u>	313-723-2010	
	IDPH Human Resources		515-281-6222	
Karla Dorman	Associate	Karla.Dorman@IDPH.iowa.gov	313-201-0222	

IDPH Social Media

https://www.facebook.com/preventiowayouthaddiction

https://twitter.com/iapublichealth

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG03jwEzHzM60tTC9Wzuyjw

YOUR TERM

Important Web Bookmarks

It's important to stay organized as an AmeriCorps member. Bookmark the following pages to access the information quickly and reliably.

- 1. <u>www.iowagrants.gov</u>. Iowa Grants is where your timesheets are located and will need to be updated bi-weekly.
- 2. https://my.americorps.gov. My AmeriCorps can be found at the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) website where you manage your AmeriCorps experience. You will need a My AmeriCorps account in order to utilize your education award at the end of your service. If you do not already have an account, please register prior to the end of your term of service.
- 3. http://idph.iowa.gov/. Iowa Department of Public Health website.
- 4. https://idph.iowa.gov/AmeriCorps-Mentoring-Program. IDPH's AmeriCorps webpages for Members and Supervisors/Contractors. Several important links pertaining to Member's service are listed here.
- 5. https://www.volunteeriowa.org/. Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service website.
- 6. https://www.iowamentoring.org/. Iowa Mentoring Partnership website.
- 7. https://www.iowamentoring.org/document/iowa-mentoring-partnership-certification-application. Iowa Mentoring Partnership Certification Application.

Requirements for a Succesful Term of Service

In order to successfully complete your term of service and earn the education award, you must complete all of the following items:

Complete the minimum number of hours according to your Member Service Agreement
Serve through your term of service final pay period or end date according to your Member
Service Agreement
Submit time sheets - due every other week (Iowa Grants)
Submit Monthly Service Log and Volunteer Tracking Log – due the first Friday of the following
month
Submit quarterly progress report in Iowagrants.gov
Member evaluations are signed and submitted
Attend required AmeriCorps orientation and trainings
Complete goals and objectives of the program (IDPH and host site)
Complete required AmeriCorps service project and submit the Service Project Planning,
Tracking & Volunteer Sign-In document
Complete exit paperwork

Conduct yourself according to the code of conduct
Comply with contractual agreements in your Member Service Agreement

Time Reporting System - Iowagrants.gov

When are Time Sheets and Monthly Data Reports Due?

Time Sheets (completed online at www.iowagrants.gov) are due every other week and monthly reports are due the first Friday of the following month. Refer to the 2016 Pay Period and Project Time Sheet calendar on the website at www.IDPH.lowa.gov noting pay periods and paydays. Each week through your term of service must have hours listed in the timesheet. If you reach all of your hours prior to your end-of-service date in your Member Service Agreement, you still need to submit your timesheets with hours served to get full credit for your service. It is highly recommended that members serve a few more hours over their base hours to ensure a complete term of service. All monthly reports and time sheets must be completed by your last term of service date.

Registering for Iowa Grants Time Keeping

Iowa Grants <u>www.iowagrants.gov</u> is the online system for keeping track of your service hours. After your enrollment session you will be emailed detailed instructions for registering for Iowa Grants. Once you register for the timekeeping system through Iowa Grants you will be able to utilize the system for tracking your hours toward completion of your term of service.

Tips for Iowa Grants Registration:

Review the <u>Iowa Grants Registration Instructions</u>. Register using your personal email. The same PC and browser must be used for the entire process. Browser must have Cookies and JavaScript enabled. Registration is a 2-phase process. Complete both processes refer to <u>Iowa Grants Registration Instructions</u>.

Phase 1 is **Account Activation** with the State's A&A system. (You may already be registered with A&A if you have used state services (camp site registration, College Savings plan).

Your Account Id will be your User Id in Iowa Grants. You will receive a confirmation email that you have activated your account and need to complete account activation by clicking on the link within 72 hours, otherwise you will have to start over. After you log in you will automatically be directed to the Iowa Grants registration page.

Phase 2 is **Registration** within the Iowa Grants system. Enter all required fields* **Note**: Legal Name of Organization: Iowa Department of Public Health; Organization Type: State Government; and Program Area of Interest (dropdown menu): **AmeriCorps**.

You will be brought to another webpage notifying you that your registration has been submitted for approval. Once you complete your registration, AmeriCorps staff will be notified and will complete your enrollment in the Iowa Grants system.



Time Keeping with Iowa Grants

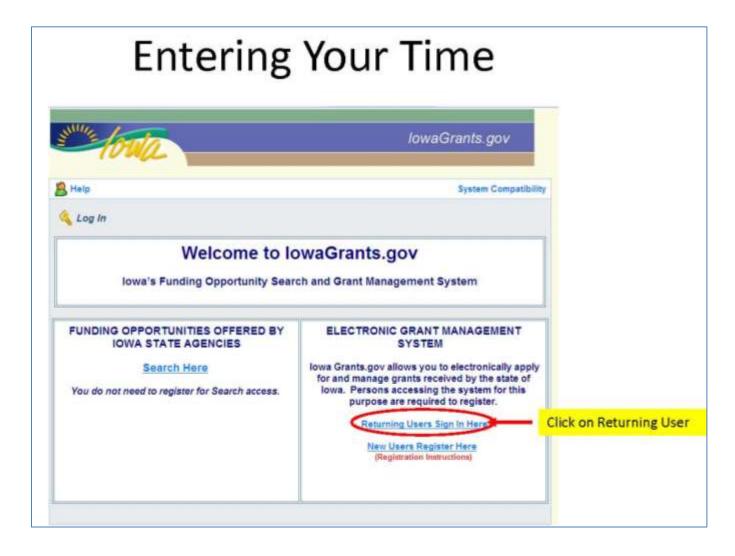
The online time sheets track your hours toward completion of your term of service. Time reports are due every other week.

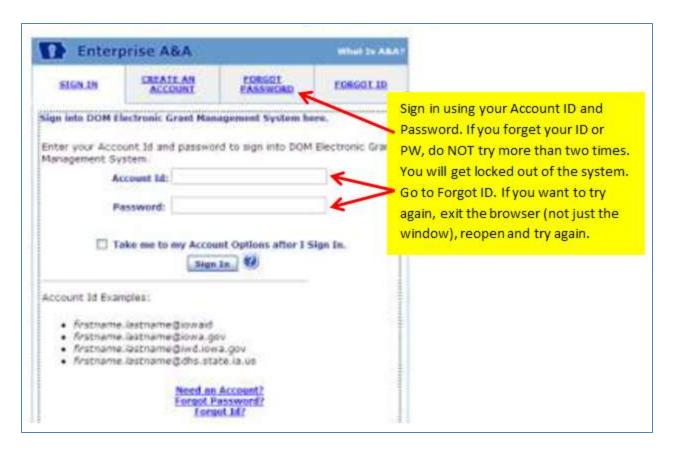
- Enrollment (including travel to and from Des Moines) should be counted as training
- Your first two days of service should be counted as training. There may be other times during your term of service where you will code your time as training (such as Orientation or on-site training)
 - o Training should not exceed more than 20% of your time served
- All other service will be counted as direct service
- Never use the columns Other or add Comments
- Fundraising hours should be very minimal, if any, during your term of service
 - o Fundraising should never be more than 10% of your time served
- Breaks and meals are not to be included in your time sheet
- Enter your hours in the system bi-weekly. Make sure and track your hours separately
- Electronically submit your timesheet for your supervisor to approve
- If you submit your timesheet, but made a mistake, contact your site supervisor to release it
- · As an AmeriCorps member, you do not earn sick or vacation leave

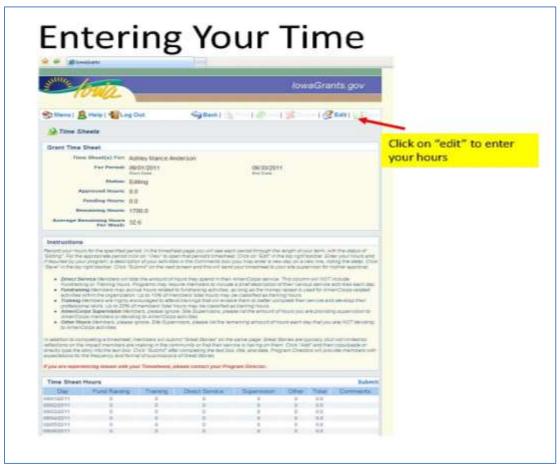
Step-by-Step Time Reporting

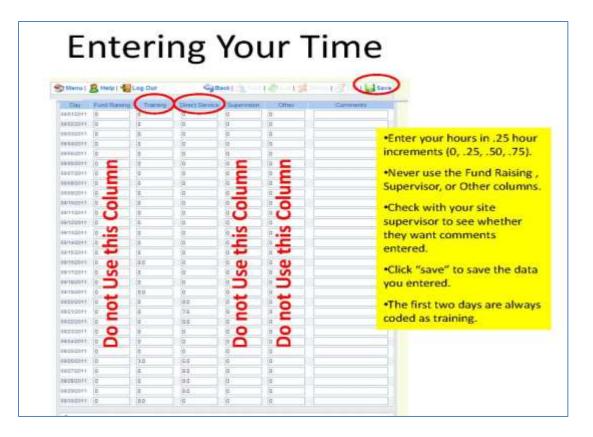
- 1. Go to <u>www.iowagrants.gov</u>
- 2. Click on "Returning Users Sign in Here"
- 3. Enter your account Id (recommend using your personal email address)
- 4. Enter your password
- 5. Click "Sign In"
- 6. Click on "My Time Sheets"
- 7. Click on "View" for the period you wish to enter time
- 8. Click on "Edit" to enter your hours
- 9. Enter your hours in .25 hour increments
- 10. Do not enter hours before you work them
- 11. Click "Save" when you are finished entering your hours
- 12. Every two weeks (once the sheet is completed), click "Submit" to process your timesheet
- 13. Click "Yes" in the message prompt box if you are ready to submit your timesheet
- 14. If your supervisor does not approve your timesheet, you will be notified to edit and re-submit
- 15. You will notice it says "Correcting" rather than "Submitted" or "Approved"
- 16. Follow the same process to edit your timesheet
- 17. If your supervisor approves your timesheet, you are done for those two weeks

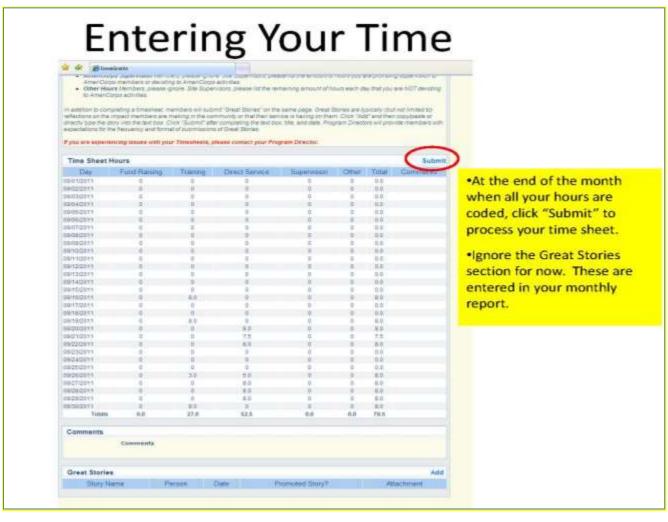
Refer to the following step-by-step instructions:

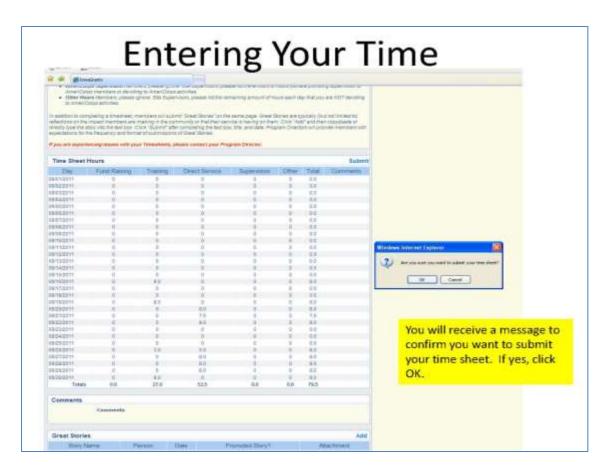


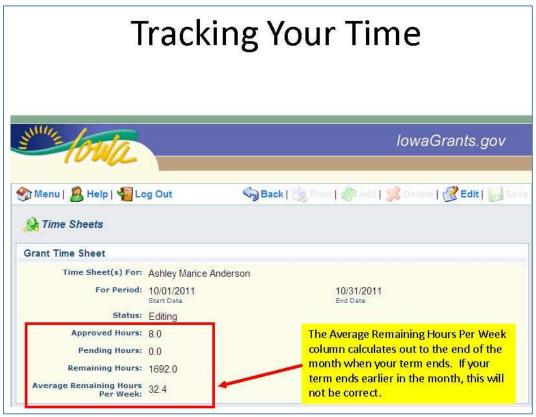


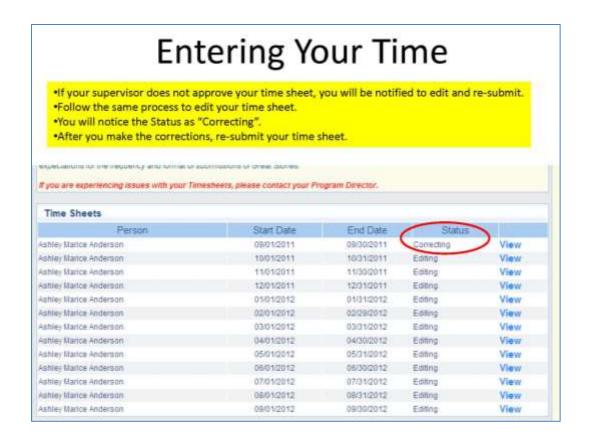


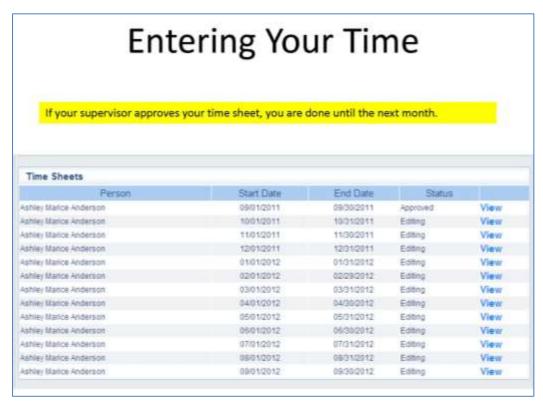












FY16 IDPH AmeriCorps Mentoring Project Timesheet and Pay Period Calendar

Pay Period	Timesheet Due	Pay Day
	Date	
11/30/15-12/3/15	12/3/15	12/11/15
12/4/15-12/17/15	12/17/15	12/24/15

		1
12/18/15-12/31/15	12/31/15	1/8/16
1/1/16-1/14/16	1/14/16	1/22/16
1/15/16-1/28/16	1/28/16	2/5/16
1/29/16-2/11/16	2/11/16	2/19/16
2/12/16-2/25/16	2/25/16	3/4/16
2/26/16-3/10/16	3/10/16	3/18/16
3/11/16-3/24/16	3/24/16	4/1/16
3/25/16-4/7/16	4/7/16	4/15/16
4/8/16-4/21/16	4/21/16	4/29/16
4/22/16-5/5/16	5/5/16	5/13/16
5/6/16-5/19/16	5/19/16	5/27/16
5/20/16-6/2/16	6/2/16	6/10/16
6/3/16-6/16/16	6/16/16	6/24/16
6/17/16-6/30/16	6/30/16	7/8/16
7/1/16-7/14/16	7/14/16	7/22/16
7/15/16-7/28/16	7/28/16	8/5/16
7/29/16-8/11/16	8/11/16	8/19/16
8/12/16-8/25/16	8/25/16	9/2/16
8/26/16-9/8/16	9/8/16	9/16/16
9/9/16-9/22/16	9/22/16	9/30/16
9/23/16-10/6/16	10/6/16	10/14/16
10/7/16-10/20/16	10/20/16	10/28/16
10/21/16-10/31/16	10/31/16	11/10/16

AmeriCorps Mentoring Program Data Reporting

Federal requirements mandate that AmeriCorps members complete reports. As a program, we collect required data on our program's accomplishment.

There will be three regular reports: a **Monthly Service Log** for the services you provide, **a quarterly progress report** summarizing what was accomplished and a **Volunteer Tracking Log** for documenting mentors recruited and attendees of IDPH approved substance abuse prevention training.

Data that you need to collect during the month in order to complete monthly report:

- Day of Service and/or Service Project efforts or events
- Accomplishments towards sustainability of the mentoring program
- Number of substance abuse prevention trainings conducted
- Number of attendees at substance abuse prevention training conducted
- Number of mentors recruited
- Required trainings that were attended
- Community organizations or other AmeriCorps members you worked with this month
- Success story or lesson learned

Goals and Performance Measures

All members will work towards the same goals of the IDPH AmeriCorps Mentoring Program including:

1. AmeriCorps members will assist each program in creation of a Sustainability Plan with

- support from IDPH via trainings, meetings and templates.
- 2. AmeriCorps members will work to recruit 150 new mentors (at least five per funded host-site).
- 3. AmeriCorps members will create and facilitate 90 trainings (3 per host-site) focused on substance abuse prevention education to at least 500 participants.

As part of your professional development, you will work with your site supervisor to set goals each month related to your service as an AmeriCorps member. Services connected to these goals will be submitted in your Monthly Service Log.

Code of Conduct

During your term of service, you are expected to perform your position duties as outlined in your member service agreement, have a positive work performance, be punctual and report to your service site according to your service hours, and represent yourself and the host site in a positive manner.

The following are considered a breach of the Code of Conduct and will result in disciplinary measures:

Work Performance

- Insubordination, disobedience, failure or refusal to follow written or oral supervisory instructions, directions, or agency policies and directives.
- Willful or wanton neglect of job duties or responsibilities.
- Conducting unauthorized personal business, loafing, loitering, sleeping, reading publications
 (electronic or hardcopy) unrelated to the job or assigned duties, or watching television. This rule is
 not intended to prohibit infrequent use of the telephone for personal business, or infrequent social
 contact or discourse, as long as it does not materially interfere with the employee carrying out
 assigned duties. Likewise, listening to the radio or CDs is permitted if such listening does not
 interfere with the ability of the employee, or other employees, to carry out assigned duties, and is
 authorized.
- Failure to provide accurate and complete job-related information whenever such information is required by another employee, manager, another government employee or a citizen who needs the information to accomplish his or her assigned responsibilities.

Attendance and Punctuality

- Failure to report promptly at the starting time or leaving before the quitting time of a work period without approval of the appropriate supervisor.
- Stealing or unauthorized use of state property and equipment.
- Access to any sexually explicit sites or media from any host site computer is strictly prohibited. Any employee who willingly violates this directive and uses his or her computer to access a sexually explicit site on the Internet will be terminated.

Personal Actions and Appearance

• Reporting to work in (1) a condition which is unsafe to yourself, others, or physical property, (2) a condition which renders you incapable of performing assigned duties, or (3) a condition which creates an unfavorable public image. These conditions may include, but are not limited to, physical illness, or being under the influence of alcohol, or other controlled substances.

- The use of alcoholic beverages or narcotics during work time or any violations of the state's substance abuse policy.
- Threatening, attempting or inflicting bodily injury to another person.
- Disorderly conduct including, but not limited to, horseplay, hazing, harassment, verbal abuse, or similar unbecoming conduct.
- Making false or malicious statements concerning other employees, supervisors, IDPH, or other state officials.

Voluntary Suspensions

If you experience a compelling personal experience, childbirth, military service, injury/surgery, family emergency, or long-term illness, you may apply to the Program Director to have your term suspended for a minimum of one (1) pay period. It is the sole discretion of the Program Director, in collaboration with your site supervisor, whether a request for suspension will be granted. Suspensions cannot be granted retroactively. You must ask for a suspension as the event is happening, not after you have returned to service.

Time spent on suspension will be added to the end of your term. For example, if you are suspended for 20 days, then 20 days will be added to the end of your term. While you are suspended, you do not have to report to your service site and you will not receive your living allowance. You will be paid during the time added to the end of your term. You may be required to provide documentation of the emergency for your file. Only a suspension can extend the AmeriCorps contract. Failure to complete service requirements within the Member Service Agreement time-frame will result in loss of the Eli Segal Education Award.

Site Visits

During your term of service, the Program Director, Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service (ICVS) staff, State Commissioners, local or state elected officials, or representatives from the Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS) may visit your program service site to learn about the projects and service you are performing. It is important that members wear their AmeriCorps clothing or buttons during site visits and make sure an AmeriCorps site sign is posted at your site.

BENEFITS/REQUIREMENTS

Living Allowance

IDPH AmeriCorps living allowances are paid through the state of Iowa payroll system every two weeks. Living allowances are a benefit for most positions and is defined in your Member Service Agreement.

You will be paid the same gross amount every payday regardless of the actual number of hours you serve. Your net pay may vary due to tax withholdings. Your living allowance is subject to state and federal tax withholdings based on the W-2s you completed at enrollment. You can modify your withholdings at any time during your term of service.

The following page includes the 2016 pay period calendar. Use the key to determine when timesheets are due, when state holidays occur, and when payroll warrants are processed.

Your first paycheck will be issued in the form of a paper check, which is mailed out on the Friday pay date. Depending on the location you selected to have your check mailed to, your check could arrive anywhere between Saturday and the following Wednesday after pay date. If you do not receive your living allowance check by the following Thursday's mail, contact Karla Dorman (see page 4 for contact information).

Depending on processing time, subsequent checks will go directly into your bank account via direct deposit. Sign-up for this process will occur during member enrollment; the funds will be in your account the Friday morning of the pay date. If you have any questions regarding your stipend, please contact Karla.Dorman@IDPH.Iowa.gov.

Health Care & Worker's Compensation

Full Time Members Health Care Options

Health care benefits, including limited dental and eye care, are available to all full-time 1,700 hour members. Member's monthly premiums are paid for by IDPH. All co-pays are the responsibility of the member. If you decline health care benefits through IDPH, proof of outside coverage is required and must be provided to the AmeriCorps program staff.

Insurance information is available https://www.scribd.com/fullscreen/287541780?access key=key-464BVnhNfe6k18uuwE2a&allow share=false&show recommendations=false.

Insurance coverage provided through:

The Corps Network, Cigna Medical Plan

Cigna: 1-800-244-6224 for more information regarding the medical plan

Worker's Compensation

As a member of the IDPH AmeriCorps program, you are covered by workers' compensation if you are injured on the service site. In order to be covered under workers' compensation, you must see specified physicians unless it is a true emergency and then you should seek immediate medical attention at an emergency room. REPORT ALL INJURIES IMMEDIATELY TO YOUR supervisor and then contact Karla Dorman, IDPH Human Resources Associate to be directed to a specified physician.

Your supervisor can assist you completing the proper paperwork. If you do seek medical attention from a physician that is not covered under workers' compensation or do not provide the proper documentation, your claim may not be covered under workers' compensation.

Questions on worker's compensation: please contact your Karla Dorman, IDPH Human Resources Associate, at Karla.Dorman@IDPH.Iowa.gov or call 515-281-6222.

Education Benefits

The Segal AmeriCorps Education Award is a certificate AmeriCorps members receive upon successful completion of their term of service from the National Corporation. The award can be transferred to specific schools or to repay qualifying student loans. Individuals may earn up to the equivalent of **two** full time education awards.

Information on the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award can be found at:

• Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS): http://edaward.org/

You must have a My AmeriCorps (<u>www.my.americorps.gov</u>) account to utilize your education award. Be sure to register and create an account before your term of service ends.

Your Segal Education Award Can Be Used To:

- Repay qualified student loans
- Pay certain education costs at qualified institutions of higher education and training programs
- Pay for current education expenses
- You can access a portion or the entire award
- Education award must be used within seven years of completing your term of service

The national service legislation defines qualified student loan as a loan backed by the federal government under Title IV of the Higher Education Act (except PLUS Loans to parents of students) or under Titles VII or VIII of the Public Health Service Act. You may also use your Segal AmeriCorps Education Award to repay a student loan made to you by a state agency, including state institutions of higher education.

Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards cannot be used to repay any other type of loan, even if the loan was obtained for educational purposes. You can use your Segal AmeriCorps Education Award to repay defaulted student loans as long as the loans meet the definition of qualified student loan.

If you are over 55 at the time you began service, you can transfer your Education Award to a child, grandchild or foster child. Please visit http://edaward.org/ for more information.

Award Amounts

TERM TYPE	MINIMUM HOURS	AWARD AMOUNT
Full Time	1700	\$5,730
Half Time	900	\$2,865
Quarter Time	450	\$1,515.55

Eligibility

You must complete the following to be eligible for the award:

- Complete the minimum number of hours according to your Member Service Agreement
- Work through the term of service end date pay period
- Submit biweekly Iowa Grants timesheets
- Submit monthly and quarterly reports
- Complete required goals and objectives of program
- Complete required service project
- Complete entry and exit surveys and forms from the program

Early Exit of AmeriCorps Service

Members may be released early and eligible for pro-rated education awards if the member cannot complete his/her term due to compelling personal circumstances which is determined by ICVS. Leaving for new employment does not qualify as a compelling circumstance within the IDPH AmeriCorps Mentoring Program as that is not one of our objectives. Members must have served at least 15% of their service term AND for at least two calendar months in order to be eligible for a pro-rated education award. Members exited for Cause are not eligible for an educational award. Contact IDPH AmeriCorps staff and your supervisor if you plan to leave your service early.

Early exits for employment reasons must meet these guidelines:

- Advance notice of 2 weeks given to the program director before the start of a new job
- No unexplained/unexcused absences allowed
- Written certification

Eligibility for Education Awards & Future Service in the National AmeriCorps Program

Member served through the contracted end date?	Yes	No	No*	Yes	No	No
Member met the minimum hours required?	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Did the member perform satisfactorily?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Exit type	Successful Completion	Successful Completion ahead of schedule	Compelling Personal Circumstances	Cause	Cause	Cause
Education Award Eligibility	Eligible for full award	Eligible for full award	Eligible for partial award	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible
Future Service Eligibility (Subject to term limits)	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible – must disclose prior release to Corporation	Eligible – must disclose prior release to Corporation	Not Eligible

^{*}Eligible if the member served at least 15% of the service hours.

Compelling personal circumstances include:

- (i) Those that are beyond the participant's control, such as, but not limited to:
- (A) A participant's disability or serious illness;
- (B) Disability, serious illness, or death of a participant's family member if this makes completing a term unreasonably difficult or impossible; or
- (C) Conditions attributable to the program or otherwise unforeseeable and beyond the
 participant's control, such as a natural disaster, a strike, relocation of a spouse, or the nonrenewal
 or premature closing of a project or program, that make completing a term unreasonably difficult
 or impossible;

- (ii) Those that the Corporation, has for public policy reasons, determined as such, including:
- (A) Military service obligations;
- (B) Acceptance by a participant of an opportunity to make the transition from welfare to work; or
- (C) Acceptance of an employment opportunity by a participant serving in a program that includes in its approved objectives the promotion of employment among its participants.

Compelling personal circumstances DO NOT include:

- (i) To enroll in school;
- (ii) To obtain employment, other than in moving from welfare to work or in leaving a program that includes in its approved objectives the promotion of employment among its participants; or
- (iii) Because of dissatisfaction with the program.

Award Limitations

AmeriCorps members can serve a maximum of 4 terms and earn the value of two full-time education awards. Full-time, half-time, quarter time, and minimum time terms of service each count as one term of service. Generally, if you are released for cause before completing your term of service and do not receive an education award, that term of service counts as one of your terms. The National Corporation for National Service Trust does not make payments to anyone other than qualified schools and loan holders. See your financial aid counselor for information on payments.

If you withdraw from the school at which you have used the education award, the school may be required to refund the Trust. If any refund is owed, it is credited to your education award "account," and is subject to the award's original expiration date (seven years from the date the award was earned). For general information on how withdrawing from school may affect your student financial aid, ask your financial aid counselor. Under certain circumstances, you can use the education award to study outside the U.S. Contact the **National Service Hotline at 1-800-942-2677 for further information.**

Award Transfer

The Serve America Act allows for the transfer of AmeriCorps State and National and Silver Service education awards under certain conditions. The person who earned the award has to have been at least 55 years old when they began the term of service and the person to whom the award is transferred has to be the transferring individual's child, grandchild, or foster child.

To transfer an award, an individual must:

- Have earned an education award in an AmeriCorps State and National or a Silver Scholar term of service;
- Have been at least 55 years of age before beginning the term of service for which the award is attached;
- Have begun this term of service on or after October 1, 2009;
- Transfer the award before the original expiration date;
- Designate all or a portion of the unused award for the transfer; and
- Complete the on-line forms authorizing the transfer, which includes providing information and certifying eligibility to make the transfer

Taxes

Remember, the IRS has determined that payments made from an education award are considered to be included in a member's taxable income in the year the payment is made to the school or loan holder. Interest payments are also considered taxable. This increase in your income could affect your tax liability for that year. Consult a tax professional for additional information regarding tax implications.

If you use your education benefit in the State of Iowa you will not be taxed state taxes.

The Importance of Using My AmeriCorps

In order to prevent a delay in the processing of Segal AmeriCorps Education Award payments, individuals must request payments electronically using the on-line system, myamericorps.gov. This is a secure, user-friendly and fast method for requesting payments to be remitted to qualified schools or loan holders. It also provides electronic records of payments requested and there are no forms to mail.

Register for your AmeriCorps account at https://my.americorps.gov/mp/login.do and click on "Register to create a new Member/Alum account." Then, follow the instructions.

How to Make Education Payment Request Using MyAmeriCorps.gov

MyAmericorps.gov provides a one-stop shop for AmeriCorps members and alumni. By registering to use the system, you can check your award balance, access important financial forms, request for a forbearance, and, most importantly, easily make payments to your educational or financial institution.

After you have completed your service and received notification of the availability of your award, you can begin to use your education award. Go into your account in MyAmericorps.gov. In your home page, under "My Education Award" click on the "Create Education Award Payment Request" link to bring up the screen to request the payment. Follow the instructions and complete the form. You will select the purpose of the payment (loan or current educational expenses), the amount of the payment, and identify the holder of your student loan. When you click on "submit", a notice will be sent electronically to your educational or loan institution. A record of your request will appear in your account home page.

The school or loan holder will complete their portion of the form and return it electronically to CNCS. They will fill in the amount for which you are eligible if the request is for current educational expenses or they will provide the payoff amount and loan type if the request is for a student loan. The institution will certify the accuracy of the information and submit it to CNCS for payment.

When you request a payment, the available balance will be adjusted by the amount of the request. Once the payment is disbursed, the award balance will be adjusted by the amount disbursed. All payment requests that are not acted upon will be cancelled after 90 days and your available balance and award balance will be adjusted accordingly.

If for some reason the institution denies the request for payment, they should have entered comments explaining the reason for the denial. If your school or loan company has not registered in **myamericorps.gov**, they will not be on the list of institutions in the system. After you do a search and your institution does not appear on the list, click on the "Not Found" link. The next screen will ask you to

enter as much information as you know about the school or loan company. You will need to enter information in each of the asterisked fields and then submit the form. These requests may be processed manually and can take several weeks to complete.

For additional information regarding the options you have for using your education award (current educational expenses, enrichment classes, qualified student loans, and "matching" schools, visit: www.edaward.org.

Optional Benefits

Food Assistance

The Food Assistance program is Iowa's program under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as Food Stamps). Benefits are issued on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card. AmeriCorps living allowances are excluded as income for Food Assistance. Make sure and inform the DHS/Food Assistance staff person that you are an AmeriCorps State and National member (not an AmeriCorps VISTA member).

To apply for food assistance and/or more information about eligibility requirements:

- Visit the Food & Nutrition website at www.fns.usda.gov
- Visit the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) website at www.dhs.state.ia.us and click on the "Food Assistance" link
- Apply online at <u>www.yesfood.iowa.gov</u>

The Iowa Food Assistance program provides an EBT (debit) card that can be used to purchase groceries. The Iowa Department of Human Services adds money to the EBT card each month. The EBT card replaces the older food stamps program.

If DHS requests a letter from IDPH, contact AmeriCorps program staff.

Share Iowa

SHARE Iowa offers grocery packages at half the retail cost. The basic grocery package includes frozen meats, fresh fruits and vegetables and convenience foods at a savings of up to 50% off retail prices. Different packages (such as vegetarian and special offers) are also available. You can pay for your SHARE packages with cash or the Iowa Food Assistance Program EBT card. AmeriCorps members automatically qualify for SHARE Iowa and no additional volunteering is required. For more information on the SHARE Iowa program, visit www.shareiowa.com.

Childcare Assistance - Only available for 1700 hour members

Income eligible members may apply for childcare assistance by working directly with GAP Solutions, Inc. Members should visit http://americorpschildcare.com/ for more information on how to access this assistance. Members are not eligible to received childcare assistance from AmeriCorps if they are receiving childcare subsidies from another source for the same period of AmeriCorps service. In addition, members that are eligible under the federal guidelines are also eligible under the state child care programs; however, the Iowa Department of Human Service requires that members access benefits available through GAP Solutions, Inc. before obtaining state benefits.

Training, Orientation, Meetings & Evaluations

Training

One of the main objectives of the IDPH AmeriCorps Mentoring Program is to provide members hands-on, job-skill training. You will collaborate with your site supervisor in planning your duties, setting, developing, and evaluating your personal and host site goals during your term of service.

During your term of service, you will receive training and experience service opportunities designed to sustain and promote a lifelong ethic of service and civic responsibility. Some of the topics that will be covered are: citizenship, volunteer management, communication, disaster response, and life after AmeriCorps just to mention a few.

IDPH requires that you also participate in the Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST). This national training is hosted in Iowa twice per year and is a foundation for substance abuse prevention work. The Program Director will provide information to you as the training is scheduled. More details about the training can be found at https://www.edc.org/newsroom/articles/making_case_prevention.

Orientation

All members (except for 300 hour members) are required to attend Orientation. Members will receive information through email regarding dates and times of Orientation.

Meetings

Members will be required to participate in a monthly Check-In Call to connect with IDPH and other members as well as discuss progress. This call will occur at a consistent time and day each month that works for all members. IDPH will also host two Contractor Meetings per each Fiscal Year. These meetings will occur in Des Moines at a time to be decided by members and site supervisors.

Evaluations (Mid-term and End of Service)

End evaluations are completed by supervisors for all members. Your site supervisor is responsible for completing the evaluation and reviewing it with you before the end of your term of service. Both you and your site supervisor must sign the evaluation and send it to the IDPH AmeriCorps program staff.

If you are a 1,700 or 900 hour member, you will receive a mid-term evaluation that your supervisor prepares for you. After your supervisor reviews the evaluation with you, you will both sign the form and send it in to the IDPH AmeriCorps program staff.

We want to hear about the great things you are doing!

- When did you "go above and beyond" during your AmeriCorps service this month? Did you take on extra responsibilities that made a difference?
- What are you going to remember about your AmeriCorps service this month? It can be anything that made an impression on you and/or was particularly significant.

Expenses

Members can request reimbursement for mileage between your service site to and from the events listed below.

- Required IDPH trainings and meetings
- Orientation(s)

All other expenses (food, lodging, registrations, and mileage) must be approved by your supervisor and will be paid by IDPH. IDPH will not reimburse travel amounts in excess of limits established by Iowa Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise. Current in-state maximum allowable amounts are:

- Food-\$8.00/breakfast, \$12.00/lunch, \$23.00/dinner
- Lodging-Maximum \$83.00 plus taxes per night
- Mileage-Maximum of \$0.39 per mile

AmeriCorps members follow the same travel/misc. reimbursement procedures as other IDPH employees, which are subject to State of Iowa laws and policies.

All agendas for meetings and receipts must be kept in order to be eligible for reimbursement.

Media

All media articles (press releases, letters to the editor, newsletter articles, etc.) regarding IDPH AmeriCorps Mentoring Program need to be submitted to IDPH for review before public distribution. The following process should be followed:

- a. Include the "Iowa Department of Public Health AmeriCorps Mentoring Program" title in all articles.
- b. Include boilerplate language (See Branding section at https://idph.iowa.gov/americorps-mentoring-program/members)
- c. Articles need to be submitted to Julie Hibben, Program Director, via e-mail at <u>Julie.Hibben@idph.iowa.gov</u>.
- d. Allow at least five (5) business days for review by IDPH.
- e. Requested changes by IDPH need to be incorporated into the articles before being distributed to the media

Day of Service

Each AmeriCorps member will be required to complete at least one day of service and provide project outcomes on the document described below. This document should be submitted to Julie Hibben via email once the Day of Service is completed.

• **Service Project Planning, Tracking & Volunteer Sign-In Sheet** is a three-part form that will walk you through whether or not the project will accomplish your goals; evaluate the project once you have completed it; and it also contains a sign-in sheet for all volunteers who participate. You must always have a sign-in sheet for every event you host.

Some examples of Days of Service include the following:

MLK Day of Service

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr., we encourage you to volunteer in your local communities. More information can be found at http://www.nationalservice.gov/mlkday.

AmeriCorps Week

To celebrate AmeriCorps Week, AmeriCorps members are encouraged to promote AmeriCorps and the availability of the program in your local communities.

The date for AmeriCorps Week will be in March. More details will be sent out after the date for AmeriCorps Week is established.

Requirements for Organizing Day of Service Projects

The event must abide by the following:

- 1. Partner with at least 1 other non-profit organization (Boys Scouts, Rotary, etc.)
- 2. The project must be a minimum of 4 hours. Members organizing the project can count these hours as service hours. Members can to count up to an additional 8 hours toward their service for pre and post project tasks.
- 3. The project must be connected to youth mentoring or substance abuse prevention.
- 4. The project cannot be directly related to the service you perform as an AmeriCorps member do not develop an event to replace your AmeriCorps duties.
- 5. The project needs to be completed on property that is available for public use.
- 6. The project needs to take place within the State of Iowa.
- 7. All communication, media, and publicity should be developed and submitted to IDPH Program Director at lulie.Hibben@idph.iowa.gov a minimum of 3 weeks in advance.
- 8. Volunteers must be actively engaged in service. Educational components may not take up more than 25% of the project time.
- 9. No mileage reimbursement is available for AmeriCorps Service Project travel.
- 10. Once the project is completed, project members must submit all required documentation to the IDPH Program Director but keep a copy at your site location.

VOLUNTEERS WILL NOT BE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES OR DISTRIBUTE MATERIALS RELATED TO PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.

Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Anti-Discrimination Policy

SECTION 2.40 STATE OF IOWA EEO, AA, AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY
Last Update: 12/2010
State of Iowa
For Executive Branch Employees

All executive branch employees will be required to read this Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Anti-Discrimination Policy, and will be expected to sign an Acknowledgment indicating that the Policy was read and fully understood by the employee. This revised Policy shall become effective December 10, 2010.

A. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of the executive branch of state government in the State of Iowa to "Provide equal employment opportunity within state government to all persons." (Iowa Code 19B.) The intent of this policy is to ensure that individuals are not denied equal access to state employment opportunities because of their race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity, consistent with applicable state and federal policies and regulations. It is also the policy of the executive branch of state government in the State of Iowa to apply affirmative action measures to correct the underutilization of females, minorities, and persons with disabilities in the state employment system whenever remedial measures are appropriate.

B. DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT IN VIOLATION OF IOWA CODE CHAPTERS 216 AND 19B AND APPLICABLE FEDERAL STATUTES

Harassment of employees based upon their race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation or gender identity is a violation of the Iowa Civil Rights Act (Iowa Code chapter 216, as amended). Other laws also prohibiting discriminatory harassment in one or more of specified covered areas include: Iowa Code Section 19B.12, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1978, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Examples of discriminatory harassment based on the employees' protected status include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Abusing the dignity of an employee through insulting or degrading remarks or conduct.
- 2. Threats, demands, or suggestions that an employee's work status is contingent upon submission to harassment.
- 3. Subjecting an employee to demeaning or degrading activities in order to gain co-worker acceptance, e.g., hazing.

C. SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is a violation of both federal and state statute. Harassment on the basis of sex is a violation of Section 703 Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000e et seq.) as amended and Iowa Code Sections 19B.12 and 216. Sexual harassment based on real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity is a violation of Iowa Code Section 216. "Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for

sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual, or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment."

Within Iowa Code section 19B.12, "sexual harassment means persistent, repetitive, or highly egregious conduct directed at a specific individual or group of individuals that a reasonable person would interpret as intentional harassment of a sexual nature, taking into consideration the full context in which the conduct occurs, which conduct threatens to impair the ability of a person to perform the duties of employment, or otherwise function normally within an institution responsible for the person's care, rehabilitation, education, or training."

Examples of sexual harassment, in addition to discriminatory harassment previously described, include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Unwelcome sexual advances.
- 2. Hostile conduct based on the person's sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.
- 3. Requesting or offering sexual favors in return for job benefits.
- 4. Actions such as cornering, patting, pinching, touching or brushing against another person's body that is sexual in nature.
- 5. Open speculation or inquiries about another person's sex life.
- 6. Jokes, remarks, or innuendos that are sexual in nature or based on real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity about another person, or about men or women in general.
- 7. Displaying sexually explicit material in the work place.
- 8. Conditioning work benefits on submission to sexual advances, tolerance of a sexually hostile work environment or giving preferential treatment because of another person's submission to sexual advances, or tolerance of a sexually hostile work environment.

Sexual harassment can take place between (a) any two state employees, (b) a state employee and a non-state employee, including contractors, and (c) between a state employee and a visitor, guest, client, patient, inmate, or resident.

D. DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

A person with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a "major life activity," or has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment. "Major life activities" include functions such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.

A "qualified" person with a disability is one who meets the legitimate job requirements and is able to perform the essential function of the position with or without reasonable accommodations and without being a direct threat to the health or safety of themselves or others. Essential functions are absolute requirements for producing critical job results/outputs. Essential, by definition, means indispensable,

vital, necessary, or related to the essence of the job. It does not include marginal functions or duties performed. As such, departments are not required to provide reasonable accommodations that would result in fundamental alterations in the nature of the work to be performed.

The State of Iowa and its departments, agencies and other instrumentalities and all their employment practices, services and programs shall comply with the requirements of the ADA. The ADA requires, in part, that the State of Iowa:

- 1. Make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, and procedures that deny equal access to individuals with disabilities, unless fundamental alteration in the program or an undue hardship would result.
- 2. May not refuse to allow a person with a disability to participate in a service, program or activity simply because the person has a disability.
- 3. Provide programs and services in an integrated setting unless separate or different measures are necessary to ensure equal opportunity.
- 4. Prohibit requirements that tend to screen out individuals with disabilities, such as requiring a driver's license as the only acceptable means of identification.
- 5. Eliminate unnecessary eligibility standards or rules that deny individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to enjoy their services, programs or activities unless "necessary" to the provisions of the services, program or activity.
- 6. Impose safety requirements only when they are necessary for the safe operation of the program in question, such as requirements for eligibility for drivers' licenses if they are based on actual risks and not on mere speculation, stereotypes, or generalizations about individuals with disabilities.
- 7. Ensure that individuals with disabilities are not excluded or limited from participation in services, programs, and activities because buildings are inaccessible.
- 8. Provide services, programs and activities offered in the facility to persons with disabilities through alternative methods, if physical barriers are not removed.

E. COMPLAINT REPORTING PROCEDURE

Any person who feels that he or she has been denied an employment opportunity or has had the terms and conditions of their employment adversely affected because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation or gender identity has the right and is encouraged, to file a complaint with the person's department, pursuant to the department's complaint procedure. A person may also file a complaint with the Iowa Civil Rights Commission or the appropriate federal enforcement agency. (For sexual orientation or gender identity, protection is offered under the State of Iowa statute only.)

There shall be no discrimination or retaliation against an individual because he or she files a complaint or who aids another individual in filing a complaint. An employee who has reason to believe that he or she has been retaliated against because of participation in an investigation of a discrimination complaint may also file a charge with the Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise, the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, or the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, whichever is appropriate.

Any person who believes that she or he has been the victim of discrimination under this section, or who has a concern about potential violations of this section, is directed to bring the matter to the attention of his or her immediate supervisor, appointing authority, or their designees, in accordance with the department's established complaint procedure. If the concern or complaint involves the employee's immediate supervisor, the employee is encouraged to file the concern or complaint with the next highest supervisor, or, in the alternative, to the Director of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services.

Department directors shall promptly investigate all complaints. Each agency shall take final agency action in response to a complaint. Corrective action shall be taken immediately to remedy violations of this policy, whenever warranted, up to and including the discharge of parties whose conduct violates this policy. A manager or supervisor who fails to properly act upon complaints or who has personal knowledge of a violation of this policy and fails to take appropriate action shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. The director for the Iowa Department of Administrative Services shall assist departments and agencies with this responsibility. When applicable, state officials and employees shall cooperate fully with all appropriate individuals in the investigation of violations of this policy in order to create and maintain a workplace free from discrimination and discriminatory harassment.

A person, other than a state employee, who is the victim of discrimination prohibited under this policy, shall report the incident immediately to the director of the department affected or to the director of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services.

The Iowa Department of Administrative Services shall have the authority to conduct an investigation of practices prohibited under this policy or supervise the investigation conducted by the agency implicated when the agency director has determined that the investigation is necessary and consistent with the intent of this policy or when the complaint involves allegations of systematic discrimination.

Individuals needing assistance may also contact the Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise, Hoover Building, Level A, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. Phone: 515-281-3087 or dashre.info@iowa.gov.

F. ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The director of the Department of Administrative Services shall be designated as the State Affirmative Action Administrator, as required in Iowa Code Chapter 19B.3 and shall be "Responsible for the administration and promotion of equal opportunity and affirmative action efforts in the recruitment, appointment, assignment, and advancement of personnel by all state agencies except the state board of regents and the institutions under its jurisdiction."

The director of the Department of Administrative Services shall also be designated as the State Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Coordinator in compliance with the U. S. Department of Justice's Title II Regulations Section 35.107. The director shall carry out this responsibility as follows:

1. Employment: The Human Resources Enterprise of the Department of Administrative Services shall be responsible for equal employment opportunity efforts under the ADA.

- 2. Accessibility: The General Services Enterprise of the Department of Administrative Services shall be responsible for equal access to State facilities under the ADA.
- 3. Complaint Reporting Procedure: The ADA Coordinator shall utilize existing complaint reporting procedures detailed in Section E to ensure that policies and procedures of the State of Iowa and its departments, agencies and other instrumentalities do not discriminate against persons with disabilities.

Department directors have the responsibility for the overall administration of this policy within their departments. This includes the following responsibilities:

- 1. Equal Opportunity: Integrating equal opportunity into all parts of human resource and program management, reviewing all policies and procedures as they affect equal opportunity and ensuring compliance with relevant statutes.
- 2. Affirmative Action: Implementing an internal system for auditing and remedying underutilization in the workforce, and annually reporting the effectiveness of affirmative action efforts to the director of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services.
- 3. Prevention of Harassment: Making every reasonable effort to prevent all forms of harassment from occurring and taking immediate and appropriate corrective action when harassment is brought to their attention, either directly or indirectly. Any administrator, supervisor, or employee who engages in any form of discrimination or harassment prohibited by this policy or who retaliates against an individual who has complained of discrimination or harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Also, any administrator or supervisor who fails to act upon complaints of or on personal knowledge of workplace discrimination or harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.
- 4. Access to Program Services: Department directors shall ensure their activities, services and programs are in compliance with the ADA and accessible to the general public.

G. TRAINING

Department directors and their employees should attend training offered through the Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise intended to sensitize and inform them concerning the elimination of discrimination and harassment in the workplace. This training shall include, but is not limited to, equal opportunity, affirmative action, diversity, and prevention of discrimination/harassment.

H. POSTING

This policy shall be posted in conspicuous places throughout each of the executive branch agencies of Iowa State government, included in employee handbooks, distributed to all agency employees, chairpersons of department advisory and policy-making groups, agency-specific recruiting sources, vendors, and contractors.

Violence-Fee Workplace Policy

SECTION 9.70 VIOLENCE-FREE WORKPLACE POLICIES
Last Update: 11/14
State of Iowa
Issued August 1, 1996 – Revised November 17, 2014

I. DEFINITIONS

<u>Violence</u> is any act that is intended to intimidate, annoy, or alarm another person; or any act which is intended to cause pain or injury to, or which is intended to result in physical or personal contact that will be insulting or offensive to another, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act.

A <u>dangerous weapon</u> is any instrument or device designed primarily for use in inflicting death or injury upon a human being or animal, and which is capable of inflicting death or injury upon a human being when used in the manner for which it was designed. Additionally, any instrument or device of any sort whatsoever which is actually used in such a manner as to indicate that the individual intends to inflict death or injury upon the other, and which, when so used, is capable of inflicting death upon a human being, is a dangerous weapon. Dangerous weapons include, but are not limited to, any offensive weapon, pistol, revolver, or other firearm, dagger, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, or knife having a blade exceeding five inches in length.

<u>Personal contact</u> means an encounter in which two or more persons are in visual or physical proximity to each other. Personal contact does not require a physical touching or oral communication, although it may include these types of contacts.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

The State of Iowa recognizes that violence at work can seriously affect employee work performance and morale. Threats, intimidation, harassment, or acts of violence will not be tolerated. The State of Iowa further establishes, as its vision, that all of its officials, managers, supervisors, and employees will treat each other with courtesy, dignity, and respect. The State of Iowa is committed to a violence-free workplace, and its goal is to prevent violence in the workplace.

Accordingly, the State of Iowa is committed to:

- 1. Preventing the potential for violence in the work environment,
- 2. Reducing the negative consequences for employees who experience or encounter violence, and
- 3. Maintaining a work environment of respect and positive conflict resolution.

III. PROHIBITIONS

A. Employees are prohibited from the possession, sale, transfer or use of any dangerous weapon while engaged in state business, or on state property or the Employer's premises.

This prohibition shall not include peace officers and other state employees who have been issued professional weapons permits by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety for use by these employees when acting under the authority of their department. Further, this policy is not intended to restrict employees who live in state owned housing from the legal possession of weapons in their homes, if allowed by the appointing authority. This policy is not intended to

restrict state employees from engaging in legal hunting and recreational activities on state owned property during off-duty hours.

- B. Employees are prohibited from engaging in harassment of another employee, supervisor, manager, vendor, customer or client in accordance with the State of Iowa's Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action and Anti-Discrimination Policy.
- C. Employees are prohibited from making threatening or intimidating statements or engaging in threatening or intimidating behavior directed to another employee, supervisor, manager, vendor, customer or client.
- D. Employees are prohibited from communicating with another employee, supervisor, manager, vendor, customer or client by telephone, electronic means, or in writing without legitimate purpose or in any manner likely to cause the other person annoyance or harm.
- E. Employees are prohibited from purposefully and without legitimate purpose having personal contact with another employee, supervisor, manager, vendor, customer or client with the intent to threaten, intimidate or alarm the other person.

IV. AFFIRMATIVE DUTIES

- A. An employee who is the victim of workplace violence shall report the incident immediately in accordance with the procedures established by this policy.
- B. An employee witnessing workplace violence or the potential for such violence directed at another person or property of the state, shall report such incidents in accordance with the procedures established by this policy.
- C. When applicable, state officials and employees shall cooperate fully with all appropriate individuals in the investigation and prosecution of criminal acts, this policy, and the pursuit of any civil remedies in order to create and maintain a violence-free workplace.

V. REPORTING PROCEDURES

Any employee who has been the victim of workplace violence, or who has a concern about potential workplace violence within the context of this policy, is directed to bring the matter to the attention of his or her supervisor, or the appointing authority or his or her designee, in accordance with the department's established complaint procedure. If the concern or complaint involves the employee's direct supervisor, the employee may go to the next higher supervisor with the concern or complaint or, in the alternative, to the Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise. All complaints will be promptly investigated by the appointing authority or the Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise.

In the event of a situation requiring immediate intervention by law enforcement personnel, the appropriate law enforcement agency should be contacted immediately.

VI. REMEDIES FOR POLICY VIOLATIONS

Corrective action will be taken to remedy violations of this policy when warranted, up to and including the discharge of parties whose conduct violates this policy.

Any manager or supervisor who fails to properly act upon employee complaints or on personal knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

A copy of all complaints received and their resolution shall be forwarded to the Chief Operating Officer of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise within ten (10) working days after receipt of the complaint and ten (10) working days after resolution of the complaint. Interim reports shall be provided to the Director as requested.

Substance Abuse Policy

SECTION 9.50 SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY
Last Update: 2/06
State of Iowa
For Executive Branch Employees
Notification and Effective Date

All executive branch employees (herein "employees") are required to read this revised Substance Abuse Policy, and will be expected to sign an Acknowledgement indicating that the Policy was read and fully understood by the employee. This revised Policy shall become effective on December 13, 1999.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Employees who conduct state business under the influence of alcohol or an unauthorized controlled substance (herein "controlled substance") present a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of their own persons, their fellow employees, and the public at large. The State of Iowa is committed to ensuring that its employees remain free from the effects of alcohol or controlled substances while conducting state business. Therefore, employees are prohibited from:

- 1. Possessing, consuming, purchasing/selling, or manufacturing alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, while they are conducting state business or are on state property;
- 2. Reporting to work for the State of Iowa under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or a controlled substance;
- 3. The unauthorized use or abuse of a prescription medication while they are conducting state business or are on state property; and/or
- 4. Driving a state vehicle or a personal vehicle when the employee is engaged in state business, within an eight (8) hour period after consuming an alcoholic beverage, using a controlled substance, or engaging in the unauthorized use/abuse of a prescription medicine.

Absent mitigating circumstances, an employee's involvement in one or more of the prohibited acts listed above may result in summary discharge. "Summary discharge" shall mean a discharge from employment with the State of Iowa after the state substantiates the alleged offense through a fair and thorough investigation. It is unnecessary for the State of Iowa to implement other forms of discipline (e.g. verbal warnings, reprimands, or suspensions) before issuing a summary discharge.

OTHER ACTIVITIES INVOLVING SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND WARRANTING REPRIMAND, SUSPENSION, OR TERMINATION

Absent mitigating circumstances, any of the following shall result in a reprimand, suspension, or a summary discharge:

- 1. The suspension or revocation of an employee's driver's license, chauffeur's license, or commercial driver's license, if an employee's job duties require the employee to possess the license, and the loss of his/her driving privileges results in the employee's failure to meet the minimum qualifications for his/her job.
- 2. The employee engages in off-duty misconduct that either: (1) impairs the employee's ability to perform his/her job function; (2) substantially effects the public's perception of the employee's ability to perform his/her job function; or (3) causes substantial damage to the reputation of the employer. The employee may be subject to reprimand, suspension, or termination even if no arrest or conviction results from the off-duty misconduct.

- 3. The employee reports to work displaying symptoms that the employee has consumed an alcoholic beverage or a controlled substance.
- 4. The employee demonstrates below standard job performance or on-the-job misconduct, including, but not limited to, excessive absenteeism or tardiness.

Smoking and Tobacco Use Policy

SECTION 9.57 SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE POLICY
State Of Iowa
For Executive Branch Employees
Issued: June 27, 2008 – Revised November 17, 2014

NOTIFICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

All Executive Branch employees (herein "employees") are required to read this Smoking and Tobacco Use Policy, and will be expected to sign an Acknowledgement indicating that the policy was read and fully understood by the employee. All employees are required to abide by the standards set forth in this policy. Individual department policies may differ because some departments may be exempted from certain provisions of the policy. However, individual department policies must also be read and acknowledged by the employee. This revised policy is effective November 17, 2014.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to establish a smoke-free environment for employees and the public as they transact business with or receive services from the State. This policy facilitates compliance with Iowa's Smokefree Air Act and administrative rules governing the use of tobacco-related products. The Iowa Smokefree Air Act was enacted in Iowa Code chapter 142D to improve the health of Iowans by reducing the level of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. Administrative rules related to this policy can be found at 641 IAC 153 and 11 IAC 100.3.

For purposes of this policy, "smoking" includes, but is not limited to, burning or vaporizing tobacco or other products in a cigarette, cigar, pipe, electronic cigarette, or any noncombustible product, which may or may not contain nicotine, that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other electronic, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, that can be used to produce vapor from a solution or other substance.

For purposes of this policy, tobacco includes any type of tobacco product including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, electronic cigarettes, pipes, bidis, hookahs, smokeless chewing tobacco, and/or snuff.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- 1. Smoking is prohibited within the confines of all State operated/owned facilities.
- 2. Smoking is prohibited within the confines of all State operated/owned vehicles.
- 3. Smoking is prohibited on the grounds of any public building including the Capitol Complex grounds. Grounds is defined as an outdoor area of a public building that is used in connection with the building, including but not limited to, a sidewalk immediately adjacent to the building; a sitting or standing area immediately adjacent to the building; a patio; a deck; a curtilage or courtyard; or any other outdoor area as designated by the person having custody or control of the public building.

- 4. Smoking is not allowed in any existing huts or any enclosed areas formerly used as smoking areas.
- 5. Use of tobacco products is prohibited in all space in Capitol Complex buildings controlled by the Executive Branch including tunnels and enclosures.
- 6. Use of tobacco products is prohibited on the grounds of the Capitol Complex.

AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES

Smoking and the use of tobacco is authorized within the confines of enclosed privately-owned motor vehicles.

VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE

The State of Iowa recognizes that employees may need assistance in stopping the use of tobacco products. The State offers the following information for assistance in the transition process:

QUITLINE IOWA – Quitline Iowa provides free smoking cessation services to all Iowans. Quitline Iowa can provide assistance every step of the way. An expert Quit Coach is available to provide support over the phone and online as you follow a Quitting plan customized to your needs. You may also be eligible for eight weeks of nicotine patches, gum or lozenges. Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or visit www.quitlineiowa.org for more information.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a confidential program available to all employees and their families. The EAP may be contacted at 515-244-6090 or 1-800-EAP-IOWA (327-4692).

IOWA SMOKE FREE AIR WEBSITE – Iowa Department of Public Health's website, www.lowaSmokefreeAir.gov is a good resource regarding the Iowa Smokefree Air Act.

EXITING AmeriCorps

Members Who Resign or Exit Prior to Term Completion

When circumstances arise where a member is unable to complete his/her term of service, it's important for the member to complete several exit steps prior to their last day. Both the supervisor and member should follow this checklist for quick reference and to ensure all steps are satisfactorily completed before the member's last day. This checklist is also on the IDPH AmeriCorps webpage.

Members who resign from their term of service without a Compelling Reason, such as injury or illness, will forfeit their Education Award

Members who do not provide at least 2-weeks' notice and who do not complete the process outlined below will be ineligible to serve with any future AmeriCorps program

<u> Upon Notification of Resignation:</u>

 Member provides letter of resignation to Supervisor. Supervisor notifies IDPH Program Director immediately. Supervisor emails AND mails original resignation letter to IDPH Program Director.
Prior to last day of service, Member and Supervisor verify all reports have been submitted and received by IDPH • Monthly • Quarterly • Service Project • Mid-Term Evaluation (if applicable)
Member submits final timesheet • Supervisor approves final timesheet
 Member completes the Exit Form in My AmeriCorps If the Exit Form does not appear in the member's My AmeriCorps account, contact the Program Director.
 Supervisor begins End-Of-Term Evaluation Supervisor and Member sign and date form Supervisor mails original to IDPH Program Director

- If the Member leaves prior to signing the End-Of-Term Evaluation and does not exit out of My AmeriCorps, the Site Supervisor must make three attempts to ask the Member to complete the End-Of-Term Evaluation and to Exit out of My AmeriCorps. These three attempts must be documented and must include all of the following:
 - 1. Email

321 East 12th Street Des Moines, IA 50319

o Iowa Department of Public Health

ATTN: Julie Hibben, AmeriCorps Program Director

- 2. Phone call
- 3. Certified mail
- Once the Supervisor tries three unsuccessful attempts to reach the Member to sign the End-Of-Term Evaluation and for the Member to Exit My AmeriCorps, the Supervisor will then send the documented dates and types of attempts to the IDPH Program Director.

End of Term Exit Checklist for Members and Supervisors

You are on the homestretch for completing your term! There are a few steps you need to follow for a successful Term Exit. For your convenience, this checklist has been prepared to help guide you through the necessary steps. Both the supervisor and member should follow this checklist for quick reference and to ensure all steps are satisfactorily completed before the member's last day. You will find this form, along with the following on the IDPH AmeriCorps website, under Exit Forms:

- AmeriCorps Exit Checklist
- AmeriCorps Exit Checklist for Members Who Resign
- AmeriCorps Exit Form in MyAmeriCorps Site
- AmeriCorps Member Civic Engagement Survey
- AmeriCorps Training Certification

One Mor	<u>nth Prio</u>	<u>r to Ter</u>	m Comp	<u>letion:</u>

	Supervisor and member review member timesheets and schedule to confirm that the
	minimum required service hours have been/or will be completed by the member's end date.
	Member completes the Exit Form in My AmeriCorps
	• If the Exit Form does not appear in the member's My AmeriCorps account, contact the Program Director. (The form is automatically available 30 days before the default one year completion date. If the member's term is less than one year, the form has to be unlocked by the Program Director.)
	Supervisor begins End-Of-Term Evaluation
	Supervisor and Member sign and date form
	Supervisor mails original to IDPH Program Director
	 Iowa Department of Public Health
	ATTN: Julie Hibben, AmeriCorps Program Director
	321 East 12 th Street
	Des Moines, IA 50319
Durii	ng Last Week of Service:
	Member and Supervisor verify all reports have been submitted and received by IDPH • Monthly
	• Quarterly
	Service Project
	Member completes Civic Engagement Post-Survey online no more than one week before term
	completion (member will need their AmeriCorps ID number. Contact the Program Director if you need
	this)
	Member completes AmeriCorps Training Certification form. Both member and site supervisor sign and
	date the form. Original is mailed to the IDPH Program Director.
Last 1	Day of Service:
	Member submits final timesheet

Supervisor approves final timesheet and confirms minimum required service hours have been completed

Life After AmeriCorps

Congratulations! You are now an AmeriCorps Alums. Take time to join the AmeriCorps Alum association which is a free non-profit that helps alumni of AmeriCorps by offering discount offerings, career development, connection to alumni just to mention a few.

Sign up today at: http://www.americorpsalums.org/

Upon successful completion of your AmeriCorps term of service, your education award will be available through My.AmeriCorps.gov approximately 4 weeks after we have received all of your paperwork into our office and you have been exited from the program.

Stay Connected

http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/alumni/stay-connected

AmeriCorps alumni are bound together by a common commitment to service and a desire to participate as active members in their communities. Learn how you can continue your commitment "this year and beyond."

AmeriCorps and Your Career

http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/alumni/americorps-andyour-career

Potential employers recognize the value of AmeriCorps service. The experience you develop through service shows your ability to handle tough tasks, your commitment

to seeing things through, and your dedication.



my.americorps.gov

Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards -- named after Eli Segal, one of the pioneers of the national service movement and the first CEO of CNCS -- are a post-service benefit received by all AmeriCorps members.



